

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05
ACDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 EPG-02
COME-00 DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01
ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13
JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01
PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /147 W
-----111609Z 038616 /44

R 111530Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2188
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
AMCONSUL BELEM

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, BR, EEC
SUBJ: FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA: BRAZILIAN COMMENTS

REFS. (A) STATE 116855, (B) BRUSSELS 4806

1. SUMMARY. NEW EEC FRENCH GUIANA FISHING REGULATIONS
SEEM NOT HAVE MADE BRAZIL MORE FAVORABLE TOWARD A
REGIONAL SHRIMP AGREEMENT. PRINCIPAL FACTOR APPEARS TO BE
THAT BRAZIL HAS NO SIGNIFICANT SHRIMP OPERATIONS OF ITS OWN
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OFF FRENCH GUIANA. END SUMMARY.

2. ECONOFF PAID INFORMAL CALL JUNE 8 ON MARCELO DIDIER,
FONMIN BASIC PRODUCTS DIVISION OFFICER IN CHARGE OF FISHING,
TO DISCUSS BRAZILIAN REACTION TO EEC FRENCH GUIANA
FISHING REGULATIONS AND ELICIT HIS COMMENTS ON OUT-
LOOK FOR REGIONAL SHRIMP AGREEMENT IN LIGHT OF EEC

MOVE.

3. ECONOFF STARTED CONVERSATION BY REMARKING THAT US FELT THAT EEC FRENCH GUIANA FISHING REGULATIONS WERE OVERLY RESTRICTIVE AND NOT BASED ON SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE, AND WONDERED WHETHER BRAZIL FELT THE SAME WAY. DIDIER IGNORED THIS DIRECT QUESTION AT FIRST AND INSTEAD REPLIED THAT BRAZIL RECOGNIZED THE EEC'S COMPETENCY TO ESTABLISH FISHING REGULATIONS FOR ITS 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE; AFTER ALL, BRAZIL HAD DONE THE SAME THING. HE THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE THERE HAD BEEN NO COMPLAINTS BY THE BRAZILIAN FISHING INDUSTRY REGARDING THE NEW RULES FOR FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA. HE FURTHER COMMENTED THAT BRAZIL'S FIRST PRIORITY WAS MAKING SURE THAT ITS BOATS WERE FULLY EXPLOITING THE SHRIMP OF AMAPA (THE BRAZILIAN TERRITORY BETWEEN BELEM AND FRENCH GUIANA). FYI: THE BRAZILIAN FISHING INDUSTRY HAS BEEN UNABLE TO EXPLOIT ITS OWN SHRIMP RESOURCES AND PROBABLY WOULD HAVE LITTLE INTEREST IN EXPANDING OPERATIONS OFF FRENCH GUIANA. END FYI. WHEN ASKED DIRECTLY WHETHER BRAZIL HAD ANY INTEREST IN A REGIONAL SHRIMP AGREEMENT, DIDIER EVADED THE QUESTION, ALLEGING THAT THIS WAS A QUESTION "TO BE RESOLVED IN THE LOS CONFERENCE".

4. COMMENT. BRAZIL IS UNLIKELY TO YIELD TO "PRESSURE" REGARDING AN AREA WHICH HOLDS LITTLE IMMEDIATE INTEREST FOR ITS OWN SMALL SHRIMPING INDUSTRY. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE GOB IS CONCERNED OVER POSSIBLE OPERATIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DIFFICULTIES OF US VESSELS OR THOSE OF OTHER NATIONS MOVING BETWEEN FISHING GROUNDS OFF THE GUIANA COAST AND THAT OF NORTHERN BRAZIL. IF ANYTHING, THEY MIGHT BE INTRIGUED BY THE POSSIBILITY THAT EEC RESTRICTIONS COULD PROVIDE AN INCENTIVE FOR US FLAG VESSELS NOW OPERATING OUT OF CAYENNE TO RELOCATE TO BRAZILIAN PORTS, AN OBJECTIVE CONSISTENT WITH BRAZILIAN DESIRES TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF BRAZIL'S OWN FISHING INDUSTRY SUCH AS THROUGH JOINT VENTURES OF US AND NATIONAL INVESTORS. THE EEC'S GAMBIT, THEREFORE, IS IRRELEVANT IN TERMS OF BRAZILIAN CONCERNS AND OBJECTIVES. PUTTING PRESSURE ON US OPERATIONS, UNDER THE FRENCH SCENARIO, WOULD BE INEFFECTIVE AS A MEANS OF BRINGING THE BRAZILIANS TO THE BARGAINING TABLE; THE US HAS NO LEVERAGE TO PERSUADE THE GOB TO NEGOTIATE A REGIONAL SHRIMP AGREEMENT CONTRARY TO BRAZIL'S OWN INTERESTS. END COMMENT.
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHELLFISH, FISHING INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, FISHING REGULATIONS, LICENSES, FISHING AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRASIL04801
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770209-0525
Format: TEL
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770666/aaaacgbi.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7661e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 116855, 77 BRUSSELS 4806
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2186427
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA: BRAZILIAN COMMENTS
TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, BR, US, FG, EEC, (DIDIER, MACELO)
To: BRUSSELS
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7661e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009